IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

09/925,728

Applicant

GEISTLICH

Filed

August 10, 2001

TC/A.U.

3738

Examiner

B. Pellegrino

Confirmation No.

5552

Docket No.

1194-179

Customer No.

6449

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

RULE 312 AMENDMENT

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.312, Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified US application be amended as follows.

Amendment to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.